

Barmouth, North Wales
7/7mo 1841

Dear Dr. A. Gray,

Thy letter of the "21 June" has been forwarded to me here, where I am staying 2 or 3 weeks with my family, endeavouring to stimulate their love of Botany, Conchology &c in this "rich" district!

** Many thanks for the seed of *Dolphinium bicolor**

Lest I should send you seeds that are of no value, I will beg thee to mark & return our Catalogue, which will probably be speedily received if not already? *

Do not hesitate, please, to appropriate the £10. for really I should not feel free to keep writing & asking for this & that, as I have done, without some little pecuniary recompensation. Because though the plants & seeds sent may seem of little value, they really are of very considerable

value to us, — far more than
what we send! I believe I
must importune for more seed
of Silene rotundifolia. or roots?

Owing to a most unfortunate ac-
cident, our young man, who
has charge of the Alpine & Herba-
-ceans dept., lost the previous
seed altogether, to his own great
mortification as well as mine.

I am very glad to hear such a
favourable report of S. repia.
I expect a stronger, more erect
& more corynoidose plant, with
broader petals, than in S. virginica.

Several plants from seed of
Lithospermum hispanicum & L. longifolium
are getting on well, & the Lewisia
has been the admiration of every
one who has seen it. I
remain very sincerely

J. B. Backhouse

P.S. Between ourselves confidentially,
I greatly regret the state of things
at Kew. I pity Dr Hooker! He
is earnest & zealous enough, but
he is not well seconded in the
Gardens. Myriad of fine things are
out there, which it is melancholy
to think of. But please do not
let such a thought come back
across the Atlantic on any account.

J.B.